



"Now is the opportune moment to reap great results in reducing the time and cost of final victory. Japan is at her weakest and her ready resources are approaching a point of exhaustion. We can see already the first signs of coming victory in this world war against world aggression. The time of the enemy's defeat is near at hand."—Generalissimo CHIANG KAI-SHEK, on Sixth Anniversary of Japan's War Upon China.

For those who will not be *Mentally Marooned*



The initials OPA do not currently designate Old Pharaoh's Army. Yet in dealing with the nation's food producers, the Administration's tactics are more than faintly reminiscent of the technique of the ancient taskmaster of the Israelites. "Go therefore now" said Pharaoh "and work; for there shall no straw be given you, yet shall ye deliver the tale of bricks."

In a period when food is the primary concern of a world in chaos, it almost seems that various gov't agencies have combined in a spirit of perversity to set every possible obstacle in the path of the producer. They have taken the farmer's skilled labor; set rigid limitations upon the machinery he can buy; they have pegged market prices of certain farm commodities and live stock, without exercising corresponding control over increasing production costs. Yet, withal, Washington confidently expects the usual quota of bricks.

What's happening in the beef market is rather typical: OPA appears to have completely ignored the economic function of the feeder. Consequently, cattle feeders have been steadily reducing operations, since first price ceilings were put on beef more than a yr ago. The price paid for thin cattle, plus feeding costs, exceeds the top prices the packers and wholesalers are permitted to pay. Consequently the big feeders—the men who put millions of lbs of meat on range cattle—simply aren't buying. The result: a few mo's hence, the staple sirloin may be as scarce as silk socks.

# WORLD WEEK

## Quote

### prophesies . . .

**FOOD:** Regardless of any control program which the gov't may promulgate in near future, our long-range forecast is steadily increasing prices to the consumer on a majority of food items. We base this premise on the "inflationary gap"—the fact that there continues to be more money than merchandise. During the late fall and winter we shall experience a genuine scarcity of many food staples, and this condition will further aggravate price control. This gen'l trend is likely to continue for some yrs beyond war's end.

With some exceptions, we anticipate food allowances under rationing will be further reduced. Though there's opposition, we may yet see ration based on occupational need.

Well, that Nazi offensive on the Eastern front, which we have been forecasting at intervals, appears at last under way. The Germans, with unaccustomed caution, were reluctant at the outset to characterize it as anything more than "defensive" action. Enemy losses, as reported in Russian communiques, are staggering, but the fact that Nazis now admit offensive intent may indicate more progress than is evident.

From this distance, the attack appears to be a three-pronged thrust centering on Kursk sector, the left flank extending to the Orel salient, the right turning eastward in the Belgorod area. This might turn out to be a wide pincer against Voronezh, an area which, you will recall, holds unpleasant memories for the Nazis. All this might add up to another eventual effort to capture Moscow. If, as has been often reported, some 100 Nazi and satellite divisions have been concentrated in this region, any serious enemy effort is not to be lightly discounted though time is short.

**PACIFIC:** We should not let action in the Solomons area blind us to very definite possibility that Japan may yet attack Siberia; in fact the naval losses which Japan is sustaining along a 700-mi arc may heighten determination to open campaign in Manchukuo, timed to co-ordinate with Nazi drive on Moscow. Chinese reported wk ago that three Jap army commanders

have lately been transferred to that area from Pacific.

**MEDITERRANEAN ISLANDS:** At mid-week score of Northwest Africa Air Force, since fall of Pantelleria, stood at 275 axis aircraft destroyed at cost of 83 planes. Allied air power appeared systematically exterminating the five German airfields on Sicily, as air opposition dwindled perceptibly.

Turkey reported Wednesday that Axis had declared state of siege in Crete and in Dodecanese islands, as result of British reconnaissance landing on Crete July 4th. Germans appear to have centered their defense on Crete with some ten divisions and heavy coastal guns. Crescent of outer isles from Rhodes to Greek mainland afford supporting defenses. Unofficial strategists are picturing an Allied drive beginning with attack on Rhodes, followed by quick mop-up of Dodecanese and inner Aegean isles, by-passing Crete initially, but subsequently subjecting it to attack from all sides.

*Aksham*, the Istanbul newspaper which speaks for official Turkey, said this wk that Italy "must get out of Albania, break relations with Balkans, leave the islands near Turkey's shores." Latter reference is to Dodecanese group which *Aksham* added "must be ceded to an anti-imperialist power upon condition that they be disarmed." Presumably, that "anti-imperialist power" might be a six-letter word beginning with T.

# Quote

"He Who Never Quotes, is Never Quoted"—Charles Haddon Spurgeon

"I am aiming at a market that present cars reach only 3rd or 4th hand."—HENRY KAISER, promising to build a post-war auto to sell thru gas stations at \$400 cash, without trade-ins.

"Where do they play baseball—and I don't mean softball?"—JOE KRAKAUSKAS, former American League pitcher, now in Royal Canadian Air Force, upon landing in England.

"Much more in planes, ships and submarines is now on the way to the Pacific. We are exerting a major effort there now, and this effort will be increased and intensified as time goes on."—Sec'y FRANK KNOX, addressing a Chamber of Commerce luncheon at San Francisco.

"In this task of saving our free economy, Congress and the executive must work together as a team."—President ROOSEVELT, vetoing the bill to eliminate funds for food subsidies.

"We are convinced that the chief reason for this food crisis is the confusion and chaos resulting from the fact that a multiplicity of agencies are attempting to deal with food production and distribution."—House Agriculture Committee, urging appointment of a Food Czar.

"The war can never be more terrible than the fate threatening the conquered nations."—BERLIN RADIO.

"There is no truth in the rumor. Production of American flags will continue to the limit."—WPB spokesman, answering rumor that flag production was to be cut 50 per cent.

"The enemy landing attempt in the Solomons is most stubborn in an incredible way."—TOKIO RADIO.

"May we  
*Quote*  
you on that?"

"The Americans destroy towns of the European continent with their cultural institutions of which there are no equal in Chicago or San Francisco. What they cannot buy of European art and culture shall become victim of their terror bombers."—Dr PAUL JOS GOEBBELS, speaking at opening of seventh German art exhibition.

"Lady Astor is very, very democratic. One day last fall she dined with Mrs. Roosevelt. The next day she invited me out to spend the day."—Lt JOHN H STICKELL, former Ill farm lad, veteran of 48 bombing raids.

"Jobs like that are injurious to a woman's health and really wrecks them."—Spokesman for Milk, Ice Cream & Dairy Drivers Local 205, Pittsburgh, Pa., protesting the hiring of two women to pinch-hit for a vacationing milk truck driver.

"Anti-Chinese laws put on our statute books many yrs ago by congress seem to have anticipated the Hitler doctrine of race theology."—Rep CLARE LUCE, urging repeal of Chinese exclusion act.

"We need to think less about WHEN this war will end, and more about HOW to end it."—Adm H R STARK, in charge U S Naval Forces in Europe, in 4th of July message cabled to *Chicago Sun*.

"Out there where the chips are down, American soldiers would trade ten celebrities for one nurse."—MYRNA LOY, at a Red Cross Nurse Recruiting rally.

"We must meet the coatless military influence. We'll have all we can do to get men to put on coats when the war is over."—RALPH SCHNEIDER, in a warning to Tailoring Industry of U S.

"I believe there will always be war. There are too many clashing interests in the world; this is not a war to end wars."—Mrs GEO S PATTON, Jr., wife of American tank gen'l, addressing a meeting of Army-Navy officers' wives at Boston.

"We get \$8 a ton for baled waste paper, and our gov't contributes most of it."—A Pa Editor, commenting on paper shortage.

*Quote*

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**England's Military Experts**  
HENRY MCLEMORE

London—Some of the most profound nonsense is being written by English military observers. Every London paper has its retired officers whose last memory of war was watching Florence Nightingale walk thru the wards in Crimea. I have read so many of these pieces, I feel obliged to give my views on a 2nd front, couched in the meaningless words of my British contemporaries. So here goes:

There can be no gainsaying that when 8,000 tons of bombs are dropped on a tool-shed in the Ruhr even the most skeptical will admit that the shed will at least be temporarily rendered useless for military purposes. On the other hand, if the tool-shed is missed, is daylight bombing worth while?

As Arthur J Topknot, in his 4th vol on modern war, said so brilliantly, "Night bombing can only be effective at night. All-out war must seize the twilight. We are wasting precious hours in the gloaming. The balance of power may yet swing to that nation which first produces a twilight bomber."

There can be no question of Prof Topknot's reasoning. However, as I pointed out in my lectures before the Royal Dustmen Fellows at the Thames College for Flower Arranging, many of England's great battles were won without bombing. So is bombing necessary at all?

At the risk of being called a false prophet, I flatly say the chances of a 2nd front being opened on a week-day are 6 to 1.

This is the war as I see it today. Of course it may be changed by tomorrow. But that's the way it is in this world of flux, you never know what's going to happen next.—Abridged from Mr McLemore's syndicated feature, distributed by McNaught Syndicate.

### AIR AGE

On a March morning in 1865, Pres Lincoln boarded a boat at the Washington wharf and steamed down the Potomac to visit Gen Grant's Union Army in the field, a short distance from Washington. He ret'd to the capitol 18 days later.

In approx the same length of time, in Jan '43, Pres Roosevelt traveled from Washington to Casablanca, N Africa, to confer with British Premier Winston Churchill. Most of the 16,000 mi trip was made by plane; the 2400-mi hop from Brazil to Africa, merely an overnight flight.—From the book, *Maps—and How to Understand Them*, issued by Consolidated Vultee Aircraft Corp'n.

### DRINK—Drinking

The very money that is being spent on munitions to win the war, on the one hand, is feeding the devil's bonfires on the other. We cry for the purchase of defense bonds, while bonded liquor is sapping the resources so badly needed.—Rev HYMAN J APPELMAN, *Moody Monthly*, 7-'43.

### EDUCATION

A high school girl, seated next to a famous astronomer at a dinner party, struck up a conversation, asking, "What do you do in life?"

He replied, "I study astronomy." "Dear me" said the young miss, "I finished astronomy last yr."—*Townsend Nat'l Weekly*.

### ETIQUETTE

In a mess hall, when a soldier reached a long way for the sugar bowl, a tablemate remarked, "Where's your manners, feller? Haven't you got a tongue?"

"Yeah" replied the offending soldier, "but I can reach farther with my arm."—*The Link*.

### FEMININE VIEW

Lt-Com Mildred H McAfee, head of the Women's Div of U S N R, recently added another honorary doctor's degree to her large collection. It was observed that during the ceremony she was plunged in a dark and somber study.

"Don't take it so hard" a friend counseled. "It's just another honorary degree."

"... with doubled-sewed seams"

In the Sears, Roebuck catalog, U S flags are described: "... with double-sewed seams; 48 stars sewed on each side; canvas headings, made to last a long time."—\$1.69 and up.

That's what it is, a piece of cloth—red, white and blue—and then when it stands unfurled, you see in it the symbol of Life itself; the things that give meaning to Life—dignity, integrity, equal rights under the law, Freedom.

Within its precious folds are enwrapped you and your family—your home—your business—all that you are, all that you have, and all that you hope to be.

It's America—it's schools, it's homes, it's churches. It's hamburgers and hot dogs; it's "cokes" and the smell of fresh-baked apple pie!

It is the marvelous movies and magnificent symphonies—and juke boxes and jive. It's Fibber McGee and Molly; it's Betty Grable in Technicolor—and Dagwood. It's Babe Ruth and Joe Louis, and Jimmie Cagney and Irving Berlin. It's Baseball, and Route 40, and the Motor Cars. It's Al Smith, Henry Kaiser and Henry Ford. It's Bataan, and Guadalcanal.

Yes, it has double-sewed seams, and 48 stars sewed on each side. It is a red, white and blue cloth. Yet it is a divine symbol that covers us all, varied as we are—and with all the gripping we do—tying our hearts and minds and hands together as one—in a firm and deathless unity to achieve VICTORY!

—Abridged from an advertisement of L STRAUSS & Co, Indianapolis men's furnishings store.

"It isn't that" answered the former president of Wellesley college. "They made me stand for 25 min with my back to the audience, and I knew that all the WAVES in the house were counting every wrinkle in my skirt."—RICHARD L STOKES, *St Louis Post-Dispatch*.

**" . . . to be known as Commandos"**

Beyond doubt, the best-known "anonymous" author of the hr is HILARY A ST GEORGE SAUNDERS (whom you may lately have heard as a guest star on the radio program Information Please.) Mr. Saunders holds, in the British Information Service, a post roughly comparable to that of our Elmer Davis, of the OWI. In this capacity, he has authored numerous informative and widely-sold tomes, bearing no identification save a copyright notice in the name of The Controller of His Britannic Majesty's Stationery Office. Yet every informed person in Great Britain is familiar with and appreciative of the excellent work of this modest public servant.

Mr Saunders is now in the U S, making a study of our OWI (and there are some who feel that we might very profitably return the compliment, and the visit!) His latest book, Combined Operations, the story of the Commandos, was published last mo, in this country by Macmillan (\$2) It is emphatically worth reading, notably those chapters relating to the St Nazaire and Dieppe raids.

We present here a brief abridgement, explaining the "how" and "why" of the Commandos:

When the Germans hesitated to embark on the hazardous enterprise of an invasion without mastery of the air, a lull in land fighting ensued. Here was opportunity to engage in a kind of amphibious guerrilla warfare to which the British were peculiarly suited. The idea commended itself to the Prime Minister and to Sir John Dill, then Chief of the Imperial Gen'l Staff. About a wk after the evacuation of Dunkirk, Lt-Col D W Clarke was ordered to prepare a scheme. He was an experienced officer, with great knowledge of guerrilla warfare. His ideas were accepted; so, also, with some hesitation, was the name Commando.

The Commandos were formed because at that time there was no existing unit of the British Army which could be spared for raiding operations. That is the bald truth. So short was the supply of arms at that time, the Commandos had not enough with which to train; only drew their full complement when about to set out on a raid.

The Commando is taught not only to become efficient in use of the tools of his trade, but to master

his mind as well as his body. They are required to think and act for themselves. They must do the sensible, obvious thing, because it is the sensible, obvious thing. The Commando may be told that the next parade will be at a point 60, 70, 100 mi away at six the following morning. How each soldier gets to that place is his own affair. Difficulties do not matter. He must be at the appointed place at the appointed time.

Finally, the young Commando is taught to regard himself as one of a team of two. Jack always falls in beside John. When scouts are sent, Jack and John go out together, in anticipation of obstacles which will be met and vanquished together on the field of battle. Friendship between two men engaged in the business of war is as old as war itself. Achilles and Patroclus, David and Jonathan, Roland and Oliver, the names change; the spirit remains. Those who train the Commandos have recognized its worth; they foster and cherish it so that the officers who take them into action may know that their men will fight, not with steel only, but with strong united hearts.

**GEOGRAPHY—Maps**

We have let maps give us a wrong idea of geography simply because we haven't looked at them the right way. It is a mistake to always look at a map in the same position, or from the same fixed point.

Turn a map of the U S upside down. The effect is startling. Why?

Because you never think of the U S in that position. But if you happened to be an Eskimo or a Canadian, you would think this was a very reasonable map of the U S. Because, to you, this is the way the U S would really look.—From the book *Maps—and How to Understand Them*, issued by Consolidated Vultee Aircraft Corp'n.



"26 Miles to Victory"—ALBERT A BRANDT, Pic, 7-6-'43.

Above the Arctic Circle, thru uninhabitable wastes, runs the most strategic railroad in the world, from Kiruna and Gellivare in Lapland, across the mountains of Norway, to the port of Narvik. For yrs, it has carried the lifeblood of the German war machine; high grade iron produced in the mines of Lapland.

No longer are the Laps romantic Nomads chasing reindeer. Now, they live in modern cities—and work 24 hrs a day for the Nazi war machine. And 24 hrs a day the Riksgränsenbaneri carries the ore over the mountains to Narvik. The most strategic 26 mi run from Riksgränsen, on the Swedish-Norwegian border, to the loading docks. If this ry were destroyed, German blast furnaces would shut down. A military post every  $\frac{1}{2}$ -mi protects it; German soldiers patrol day and night. Experts examine rails and equipment hourly, in fear of sabotage. Anti-aircraft guns and well-hidden planes are trigger-ready.

Because of weather conditions and lack of northern bases, United Nations have not been able to bomb this ry. The problem, however, must soon be solved.

The iron ore region of Lapland is about 40,000 sq mi. And Hitler is dependent today on this speck on the world map, and on the men who dig the iron. Deposits appear inexhaustible. More than 1500 million tons remain—enough to last 4000 yrs. The miners are Swedes, Laps, Finns. They live in model communities. The mines are half owned by the private Graengesberg company; the other 50% is held by the Swedish govt.

Seizure of Narvik, or a United Nations landing in southern Norway, would cut the vital communications, and sever the artery of iron that flows to the Reich.

## News of the New

**APPAREL:** When Milady tightly corks the bottle of liquid leg make-up, and puts it on an upper shelf, along about Labor Day, she may be in for a pretty stiff shock in re: the matter of hosiery. Manufacturers report that the choice is likely to be between heavy stockings and bare legs. Sheers are out for the duration, they insist, unless somebody does something. It's those OPA price ceilings. "We can't manufacture sheer hosiery under present ceilings and break even" they say. "Women will be wearing heavy rayon or baggy cotton mesh by fall" said a dealer, "and what that will do to feminine morale will be awful!"

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**MEDICINE:** Tests prove that ivy poisoning can be transmitted thru domestic animals. A dog or cat, coming in contact with a vine in the woods, may carry the poison to a susceptible person. Firewood that has been contaminated by ivy vines is another source. U S Public Health Service has developed two new ointments as a preventive. Write them at Washington for formulas.

Defense Supplies Corp announced this wk that Central America Plantations Corp had turned over 17,000 acre chincona plantation in Guatemala to U S. Said to be capable of producing about one-fourth of America's war-time quinine needs.

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**SURGERY:** We've had a good deal to say about ice technique in surgery. Now here's report that refrigeration anesthesia is used to banish pain during grafting operation. Ice bags are bandaged over area from which graft is to be taken, left in place 2 hrs. Chilled skin is insensitive to pain. Deadened condition lasts 20 min. Grafts can be made at bedside, without use of operating room.

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**VITAMINS:** The powerful vitamin biotin (\$4 million an oz) has now been successfully synthesized by the pharmaceutical house, Merck & Co. Increased supply soon to become available should speed research; develop further uses.

## HUMOR—Unconscious

Sometimes Nazis are not aware of their own jokes. They are, you know, a very literal people, fixed in their habits and with little imagination. For some time, in erecting a new structure, it has been a practice to put up a sign at the site thanking the Fuehrer for the gracious privilege of building. This sign appeared on a billboard in front of a recently completed insane asylum: "That we finished this building, we have to thank thee, leader."—Dr ERIC W STOETZNER, former business mgr *Frankfurter Zeitung*.

## LABOR RELATIONS

Labor frequently demands and gets from employers, concessions which are not in the long run for their best interests. The difficulty has been that the employer has not prepared his case nearly so well as that of the negotiator for the employees.—GEO S OLIVE (Pres Nat'l Ass'n of Accountants) "The Fifth Freedom," *Journal of Accountancy*, C '43.

## LIGHT

"There is not enough darkness in all the world to put out the light of one small candle."—Inscription on a tombstone, quoted by CECIL BROWN, war correspondent.

## NEGATIVE—with Emphasis

During the salary-ceiling days, one of our studio moguls tried to hire a certain femme star on a one-picture deal. She said "no", and when he kept hounding her with offers, finally backed her verbal refusal with a letter. I've just seen a copy: "I've thought it over, and I can't see why I should get up at five o'clock in the morning six days a wk, for two mo's, and drive to your studios, which is exactly 12 mi farther than I can travel on my gasoline allowance, in order to work for nothing in a role that I hate in the first place. In other words 'No!'"—JIMMIE FIDLER, Hollywood columnist.

## PEACE

The question now is whether the world will come to peace before it goes to pieces.—OLIN MILLER.

Confidentially  
thru a  
Megaphone

Unless you use a midget for your measure, midwest corn lacks a good deal of coming up to the old adage which declares it must be knee-high by the 4th of July. Matter of fact, some optimistic farmers are still planting. The crop will be late, and short. And an early frost might prove really disastrous.

There's been a good deal of talk about writing regularly to our servicemen. But servicemen themselves are proving rather poor correspondents. And Uncle Sam is becoming concerned. Servicemen overseas receive 20 million pcs mail weekly; send seven million. All branches of service are flooded with letters from anxious mothers, wives, sweethearts, with plaintive plea, "Why haven't we heard . . ." So word is being passed: *You owe it to the folks at home to answer ALL letters promptly.*

War Manpower Commission has ordered aboutface on posters and other propaganda featuring beautiful babes at work in airplane factories. Reason: Plane plants are getting disproportionate amt of available womanpower. Making planes threatens to become sole goal of glamor gal. WMC wants spotlight turned on more prosaic but equally essential tasks.

Physicians and surgeons who were in the Army reserve prior to Pearl Harbor feel they aren't getting a break on promotions. Newcomers are shooting ahead of them in rank. Here's what happened: Army has had to boost its bids in order to induce civilian doctors to give up profitable practices. Result: many have been inducted as majors, or better, while Reserve officers of equal experience and longer service remain captains or even lieutenants. . . Lowdown is that Medical corps is getting pretty desperate in its need for registered nurses. Nurses in private practice just aren't signing up.

## PERSPECTIVE

Orville and Wilbur Wright had tried repeatedly to fly a heavier-than-air craft. Finally one Dec day, off the sand dunes of Kitty Hawk, N C they did what man had never done before. They actually flew! Elated, they wired their sister Katherine, "We have actually flown 120 ft. Will be home for Christmas."

Hastily she ran down the street, shoved the telegram—the news scoop of the century—at the city editor of the local paper. He read it carefully and smiled, "Well, well! How nice the boys will be home for Christmas!"—Trained men, h m International Correspondence Schools.

## On the Other Hand...



 "There is not more than a thousand to one chance of re-educating the present German generation to democratic principles. The best course is to concentrate on the education of a future generation of Germans, but keep the present generation very much in their place, and that means military occupation."—Lord VANISTART, veteran British diplomat, speaking in London before Anglo-American Journalist Ass'n of Paris.

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 "How Germans shall be treated after the war is not an American question. It is not an English question. It is a German question. The Germans are a living mass. Their futures depend, as do the futures of all peoples, on their own decisions. It is not up to us to invent a German future, or to supervise the education of German youth. It is the profoundly democratic approach to say to a people, with the severity of life itself, that if you make the wrong decision, you shall go to hell."—SAMUEL GRAFTON, American newspaper and radio commentator.

## "The Little Red Hen"—Victory Model

JOHN GOULD

*This is the story of Farmer McGregor and his troubles. He got his wheat planted after many tribulations, but couldn't get a harvesting machine when it was ripe. So he started looking for a hired man to cradle it by hand.*

"Who will get me a hired hand?" asked Farmer McGregor.

"Not I," said the Employment Service, "We are having trouble locating welders at \$140 a week, and precision-tool jiggers at \$23 a day, and we don't know a soul that can cradle wheat."

"Not I," said the local draft board. "You better find a school kid."

"Not I," said the high school principal. "This week we're helping the grocer paste ration coupons."

"Not I," said the county agent. "We are busy now teaching women to make plum jam without sugar, syrup, molasses or plums."

"Not I," said the local defense plant. "We are on a cost-plus basis, and absenteeism costs ten thousand dollars a minute."

"Not I," said the Manpower Commission. "We are working on your problem, but just at present there is a shortage of stenographers."

"Not I," said the War Production Board. "You haven't made the proper application."

"Not I," said the Food Co-ordinator. "I will issue a directive soon."

## SACRIFICE

A party of visitors was going thru a hospital where some of our wounded soldiers had just arrived from Africa. They came to an American soldier who had lost his legs. One visitor, somewhat embarrassed, asked, "How did you lose them, buddy?" The soldier thought a moment, and responded: "I didn't lose them. I exchanged

"Not I," said the Lend-Lease Authority. "We are powerless to act under existing regulations."

"Not I," said the Congressional delegation. "Without fear of successful contradiction we may infer that democracy is at the crossroads, and the flag of freedom must be unfurled from the pinnacle of the globe with blood, sweat and tears until man can again bask in the freedom we fought so valiantly to perpetuate."

"Not I," said the neighbors. "We are working in the shipyards."

So Farmer McGregor, with the assistance of his grandmother, harvested his wheat.

"Now," said Farmer McGregor, "who will help me eat this nice clean wheat?"

"I will," said the county chairman, the dealers, the machinery people, the employment service, the draft board, the county agent, the defense workers, the high school teachers, the Manpower Commission, the War Production Board, the Food Administration, the welders and shipfitters, the Lend-Lease Authority, the neighbors, the Army, Navy, Coast Guard, Marines, airplane spotters, WAACs, WAVES, SPARs, WAAFs, Russians, British, Chinese, South Americans, Hindus, Eskimos, Mrs. Roosevelt, Congress, the Maritime Commission, the USO, the National Association of Manufacturers, Secretary Ickes, the AFL, the CIO, and everybody else from Sitka to Casablanca, from Istanbul to Vladivostok, from Maine to California, until the hubbub was unanimous.—*New York Times*.

them for a clear conscience."—Jos C Grew, former U S Ambassador to Japan.

## UNDERSTANDING

On the whole, you're lucky that people don't understand you. Getting understood is like going nudist; it's likely to prove a terrible shock. —ELSIE ROBINSON, in her syndicated newspaper column.

# GEMS FROM Yesteryear

A Petition

BENJ FRANKLIN

We incline to think of BENJAMIN FRANKLIN as a Statesman, Diplomat, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. But he was a man of many moods and facets. You may be surprised to learn that he authored this whimsical bit.

I address myself to all friends of youth, and conjure them to direct their compassionate regards to my unhappy fate. There are twin sisters of us; and the two eyes of man do not more resemble, nor are capable of being on better terms with each other, than my sister and myself, were it not for the partiality of our parents who make the most injurious distinctions between us. From infancy, I was led to consider my sister of more elevated rank. I was suffered to grow up without instruction, while nothing was spared in her education. She had masters to teach her writing, drawing, music and other accomplishments; but if by chance I touched a pencil, a pen, or a needle, I was bitterly rebuked; and more than once I have been beaten for being awkward, and wanting a graceful manner. It is true my sister associated me with her upon some occasions; but she always made a point of taking the lead, calling upon me only from necessity, or to figure by her side.

But conceive not, Sirs, that my complaints are instigated by mere vanity. No; my uneasiness is occasioned by an object more serious. It is the practice in our family that the whole business of providing for its subsistence falls upon my sister and myself. If any indisposition should attack my sister, what would be the fate of our poor family?

Condescend, Sirs, to make my parents sensible of the injustice of an exclusive tenderness, and of the necessity of distributing their care and affection among all their children equally. I am, with a profound respect, Sirs, your obedient servant,

THE LEFT HAND.

# Good Stories YOU CAN USE...

There had been a raid in the night and next morning an old woman, emerging from her shelter, found her house almost demolished. The piano was in the garden and the front had been blown out.

"Ah" said a facetious looker-on, "they've made t' planner into a harp."

"Ay, maybe" replied the old lady "but they hanna got me to play it!" —*Tatler & Bystander* (London).

### I LAUGHED AT THIS ONE

ERIC HERMAN

A woman hustled into an empty compartment on an English train with her flock of four children and had them cluster up to the window so that people in the station would believe the compartment was full. Despite this deception, a ragged and unshaven man entered and took a seat.

The woman glared at him for a moment, then said, "I don't think you'd better stay; my children all have the measles."

"Don't worry about me, lady" said the man. "I've 'ad 'em myself."

Very annoyed by this time, the woman protested, "But they're also coming down with whooping cough."

The man looked up wearily. "Look, lady" he said, "don't worry about that. The first tunnel we come to, I'm going to cut my throat." —*Coronet*.

Little Eloise concluded her evening prayer: "Lord, please, if you don't mind, from now on put the vitamins we need in pies, cakes and ice cream cones instead of spinach and cod liver oil." —*Protestant Voice*.

### And what does she do?

Here's a tip: If you chance to meet Mrs Frank J Boulger, of Minneapolis, don't ask what position her daughter Catherine is now holding in Washington—that is, if you're in a hurry to catch a bus, or something.

To save you trouble, we'll explain that Kitty works in the Data-Analysis group of the Aptitude-Test sub-unit of the Worker Analysis Section of the Division of Occupational Analysis and Manning Tables of the Bureau of Labor Utilization of the War Manpower Commission.

### WISECRACKS of the Week

Courtship is a period during which a girl decides whether or not she can do better.—*U S Naval Station Pelican*.

" " "Because of lessons learned in Africa, the Nazis adopt yellow uniforms"—one of those rare occasions on which a gag improves in the translation.—*Sen SOAPER*.

" " "Washington may be a madhouse—but only in the sense that it is the capital of a nation that is fighting mad.—*N Y Post*.

" " "SHOT: That which, if some people have more than one, they're half.—*Louisville Courier-Journal*.

A venerable Negro was asked how he was getting along.

"Fine" he cackled, "Jes' fine! Jesus is leadin' me and the gov't is feedin' me!" —*Editor & Publisher*.

